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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

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| Applicant | : | A. Sid |
| Serial No. | : | 10/072,273 |
| Filing Date | : | February 8, 2002 |
| For | : | CONTROLLER PANEL AND SYSTEM FOR LIGHT AND SERIALLY NETWORKED LIGHTING SYSTEM |
| Examiner | : | n/a |
| Group Art Unit | : | 2875 |

**Commissioner for Patents**
**Washington, D.C.   20231**

### STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL
### AND INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In support of the accompanying Petition to Make Special,
submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A, is a listing of documents
known to applicant and/or his attorney uncovered during a
preliminary examination search and deemed most closely related to
the subject matter encompassed by the claim of the present
application.  This listing of documents is also in compliance
with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.56.  Copies of the

documents are also submitted herewith.

Applicant does not waive any rights to appropriate action to establish patentability over any of the listed documents should they be applied as references against the claim of the present application.

## Discussion of the Relevance of the References

Item AA (Dinges) teaches a keyboard operated controller for controlling numerous devices, including fluorescent lights. Control signals are stored in addressed multiposition registers, that are associated with a lighting device function. The controller is distinguishable from the invention.

Item AB (Bornhorst) discloses a console-controlled lighting system having addressable lights of the manual set type, and is therefore distinguishable from the invention.

Item AC (Callahan) discusses a lighting system that utilizes the DMX-512 protocol and has programmable light functions, but has non-programmable lamp addresses and is otherwise different from the present invention.

Item AD (Taylor) teaches a lighting system in which a series of lighting cues are programmed and stored in memory in each lamp, and can be recalled by a signal sent from a central controller. The lighting system has obvious differences form applicant's lighting system.

Item AE (Pearlman) teaches a lighting system in which a

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central controller electronically programs individual lamp controllers with addresses. The address generated by the central controller is used to select the lamp(s) connected to the lamp controller, which may be a dimmer or an on/off switch. However, the lighting system is otherwise different from applicant's lighting system.

Item AF (Grange) discloses a track lighting system having individual lights with manually set address switches contained in the light housings. Therefore, there it is obviously different from applicant's lighting system.

Item AG (Warner) discloses a lighting component comprising a remotely controlled receiver unit responsive to control signals and capable of decoding these signals. Lighting is controlled through at least two channels. The lighting component is distinguishable from the present invention.

Item AH (Swaney) teaches a memory addressing system for use in general data processing, in which a control unit sends a signal with an address code to several attached devices over a bus interface. Devices which are encoded to accept the address code respond to the signal. The memory addressing system is distinguishable from the addressing of the present invention.

Item AI (Taylor) teaches a computerized control system, which processes control inputs, generates system control commands, and translates the commands into parameter values, which are conveyed to addressed lamp units by a communication system. The lamp units may support diverse communication

protocols, functions, and data parameters.  The controller and communication system are very different from the applicant's invention.

Item AJ (Werner) seeks protection for a control system with programmable receivers that control appliances such as lights. The addresses of the receivers are initially set manually, but may be changed electronically and set automatically once connected to the control system.  The control system is distinguishable from applicant's control system.

Item AK (Sugden) seeks protection for a computerized controller connected to addressed lamp units with multiple adjustable parameters via either a serial connection daisy chained between the lamp units, or ethernet communication.  The computerized controller is otherwise different from applicant's invention.

Item AL (Hunt) teaches a computerized controller with a console of control elements for inputting data and serial communication with lamps.  The computerized controller is otherwise different from applicant's invention.

Item AM (Callahan) discloses a method for distributing control signals to dimmers, which includes methods for separately addressing dimmer modules.  The methods are distinguishable from the present invention.

Item AN (Ference) discloses a lighting system with programmable addressable dimmers.  A central controller is used to generate address location data in the form of a binary word,

which is sent to a dimmer and set in the dimmer memory.

Item AO (Haskell) teaches a lighting control system comprising microprocessor controlled serial data output for controlling and selecting lamp circuits that are individually addressable. The lighting control system is otherwise distinguishable from the present invention.

Item AP (Carson) discloses a lighting control and dimming system in which binary data is retrieved from a remote controller and is transmitted serially to each dimmer unit. Each dimmer compares the binary data in its own memory to the binary data received, and a complete match in the binary data enables the dimmer to produce an effect corresponding to the binary data. The lighting control system is very different from applicant's invention.

Item AQ (Chou) teaches a flicker light string comprising a plurality of series connected lamps, in which multiple units can be serially connected without limit.

Item AR (Carson), a divisional of Item AE2, similarly discloses programmable dimmer units and is different from applicant's invention.

Item AS (Alt) discloses a control system, particularly suitable for lighting systems, in which programming signals and timing reference instructions are transmitted remotely via radio transmission to individual and independent device units, so that each device is operated in accordance with the same protocol designated by the programming signal and is actuated at a

predetermined time by the timing reference instructions. The control system is very different from the present invention.

Item AT (Chansky) discloses a lighting control network operated via a local area network (LAN) with Ethernet technology. Node controllers are configured as network protocol converters, having a LAN interface, and DMX-512 inputs and outputs for controlling non-dedicated and dedicated DMX dimmer racks. The lighting control network is otherwise different from the applicant's invention.

Item 2AA (Bryde) discusses a lighting control for devices such as electrical lamps, in which signals for commanding various light functions (e.g., light intensity, light power) are encoded and transmitted between a wireless remote (Infrared) transmitter and a power control with a receiver unit adapted to receive signals. A remote transmitter may also have capability for setting an address for a device and sending control signals to one or more power control receiver units assigned to the selected address. The lighting control has several differences with respect to the present invention.

Item 2AB (Sid) teaches a method for remotely programming the addresses of lighting control devices using the DMX protocol, and is otherwise different from applicant's invention.

Item 2AC (Hunt) discloses a lighting communication system in which a remotely situated connector carrier is configured as an interface to accommodate many different formats of signals and communication protocols for communication with a lamp, but each

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lamp communicates with a controller via an independent dedicated channel. Therefore, the lighting communication system is very different from applicant's lighting system.

Item 2AD (Lys) describes a computer current-controlled lighting assembly, wherein a current-controlled unit is uniquely addressable and capable of receiving illumination color information. It is distinguishable from the present invention.

Item 2AE (Belliveau) teaches a multi-parameter lighting device that receives digital communications signals from a control device via remote or network access, in which the parameters of the lighting device are modified by a processor that interprets audio electrical signals converted from sound waves. The lighting device has obvious differences with respect to applicant's lighting system.

Item 2AF (Bryde), a divisional of Item 2AA, also discloses wireless transmission of signals for controlling light functions and assigning of addresses for signal destination.

## REMARKS

Applicant submits that the controller panel and system claimed in the present application is distinguishable over the references discussed above.  Due to the differences in appearance between applicant's claimed controller panel and system and the cited references, applicant's invention is believed to be patentable.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that more material information does not exist or that an exhaustive search of the relevant art has been made.

Consideration of the cited documents and making the same of record in the prosecution of the above-noted application are respectfully requested.  Prompt consideration of these documents in regard to the concurrently-filed Petition to Make Special is also respectfully requested.

Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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